

The Troubled Families Programme

Evaluation findings and reflections on the future

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Communities &
Local Government

What is the Troubled Families Programme?

The programme's key objectives:



For Families

- To achieve significant and sustained progress with up to an additional 400,000 families with multiple, high cost problems by 2020.
- To make work an ambition for all troubled families.



For Local Services

- To transform the way that public services work with families with multiple problems to take an integrated whole family approach.
- To help reduce demand for reactive services.

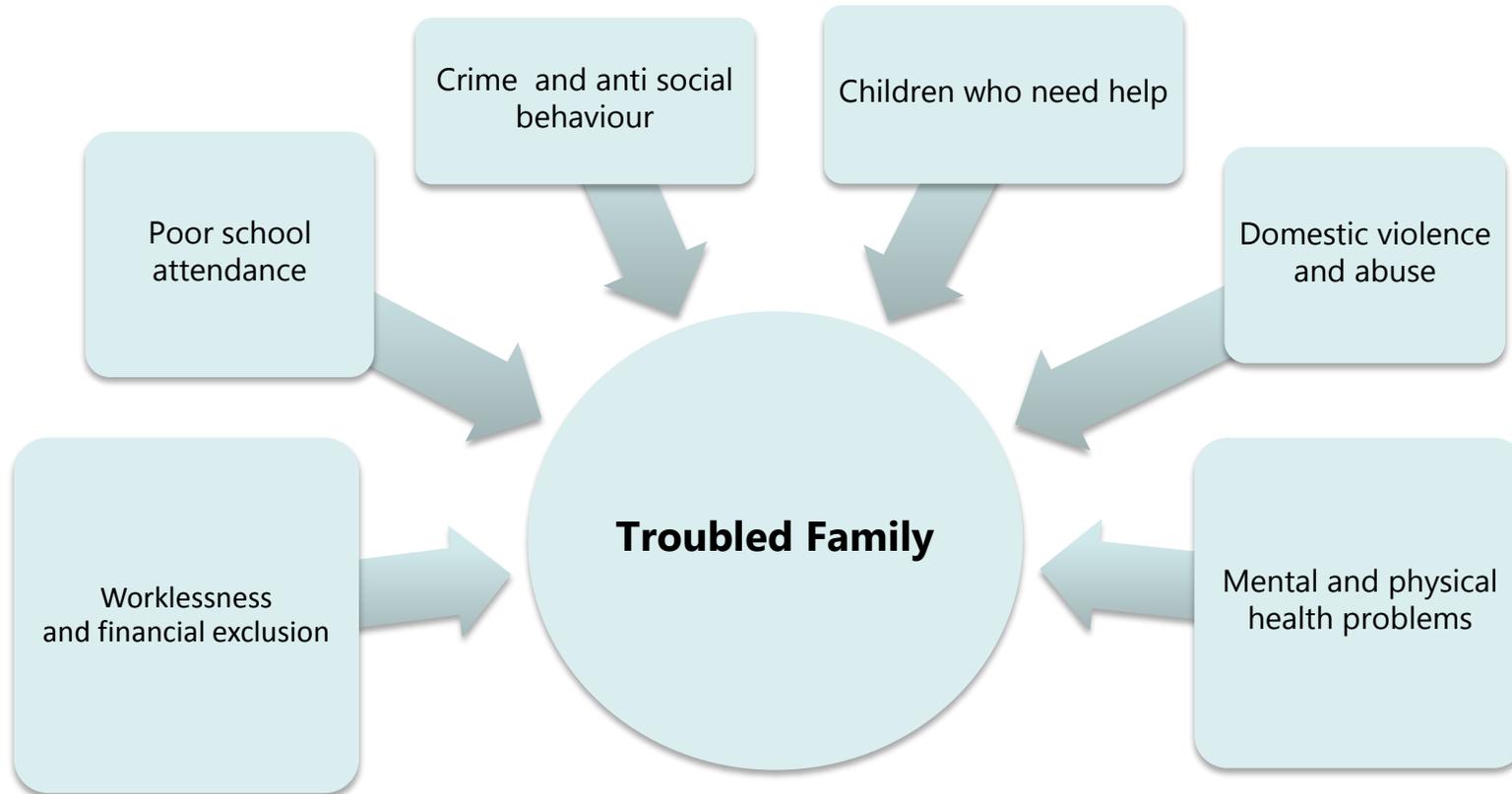


For the Taxpayer

- To demonstrate that this way of working results in lower costs and savings for the taxpayer.

Who is eligible?

Every troubled family has at least two of six nationally defined problems to be eligible for the programme:



A rethink of how services interact with families in need

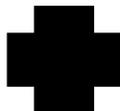
Untransformed services

Education welfare



Child

Mental health services



Mum

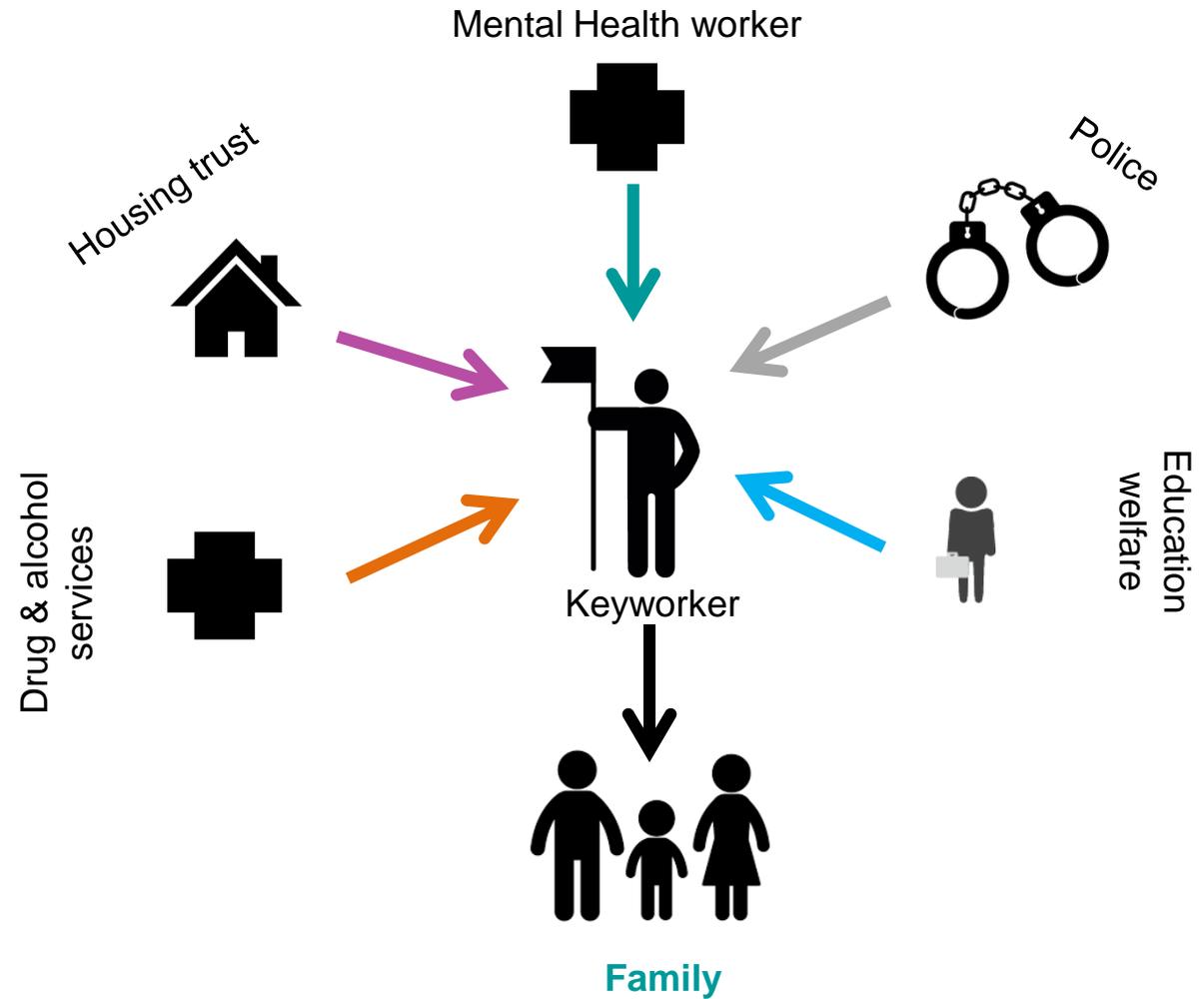
Police



Dad

A rethink of how services interact with families in need

TF model of working



Working with families with complex problems

Individuals in the first five cohorts of troubled families on which we have linked administrative data for are significantly more complex than other individuals in the general population

Adults were

5 times more likely to be claiming benefits in the last year

Children were

3 times more likely to be persistently absent in the last school year

Adults were

9 times more likely to have had a proven offence in the last year

40% of families had a family member with a mental health issue

Children were over

9 times more likely to be classified as a Child in Need in the last year

22% of families had a family member involved in an incident of domestic abuse or violence

Incorrect media reporting in autumn 2016 that the programme had *“no impact”*

David Cameron's troubled families programme had no significant impact, report finds

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The scheme was designed to stop anti-social behaviour and turn families around CREDIT: MATT CARDY/GETTY

Daphne Du Maurier's personal life

An intriguing character: du Maurier described herself as possessing two personas [Read more](#)

Sponsored

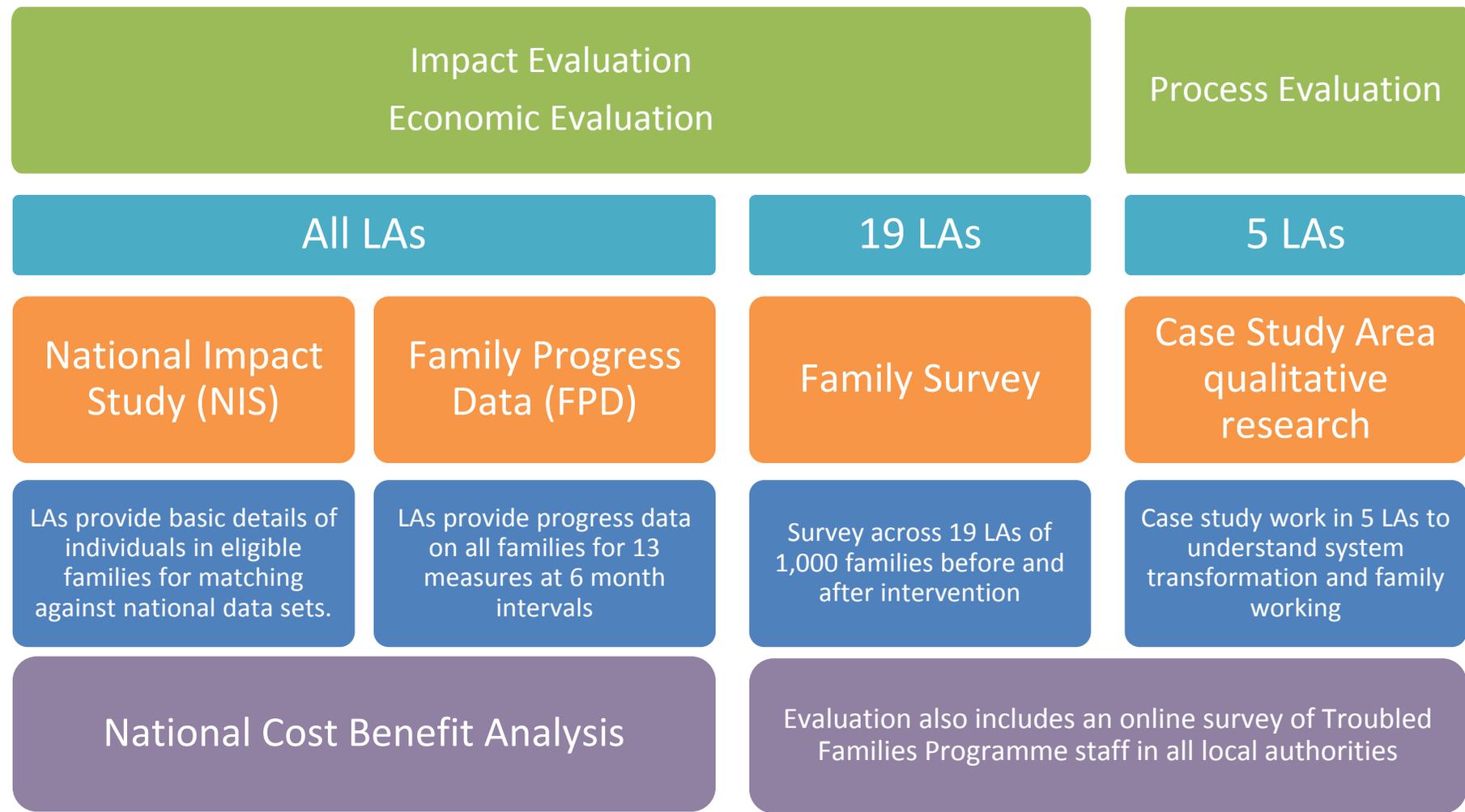
By **Steven Swinford**, DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

18 OCTOBER 2016 - 1:31AM

The government's £400million “troubled families” programme did not have any “significant or svstematic impact” on

- Partial reporting of **one of strand of six** strands of evaluation
- **Five other reports** which, together with NIESR's study **confirmed positive findings** about families' experience and transformation of services
- NIESR's quasi-experimental study **could not attribute** positive impacts specifically to the Troubled Families Programme

The evaluation strands for the expanded phase



The evaluation of the expanded phase in context

An **NAO** study found:

- 6,000 analytical reports produced by government
- Only 300 impact evaluations (5%)
- Under half assessed as being good quality (i.e. had a counterfactual/comparison group)
- Evaluated <1% of total government spending
- Troubled Families evaluation an exception

National impact study findings



- **Children in need of help**

Reduced the proportion of children that are looked after children from 2.5% to 1.7%; or **32% decrease** at 19-24 months after joining the programme.



- **Crime**

Reduced the proportion of: adults receiving custodial sentences from 1.6% to 1.2% (**25% decrease**); juveniles receiving custodial sentences from 0.8% to 0.5% (**38% decrease**); and juvenile convictions from 4.6% to 3.9% (**15% decrease**) 19-24 months after joining the programme.



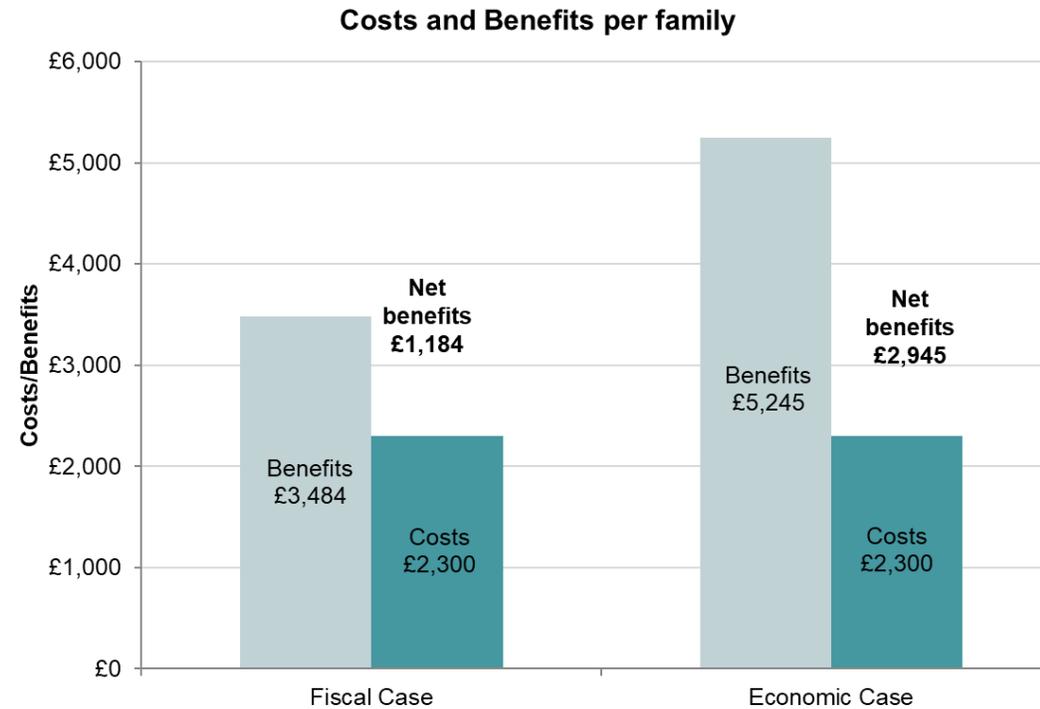
- **Worklessness**

Reduced the proportion of adults claiming Jobseeker's Allowance 19-24 months after joining the programme from 10.5 to 9.3% or an **11.4% decrease**.

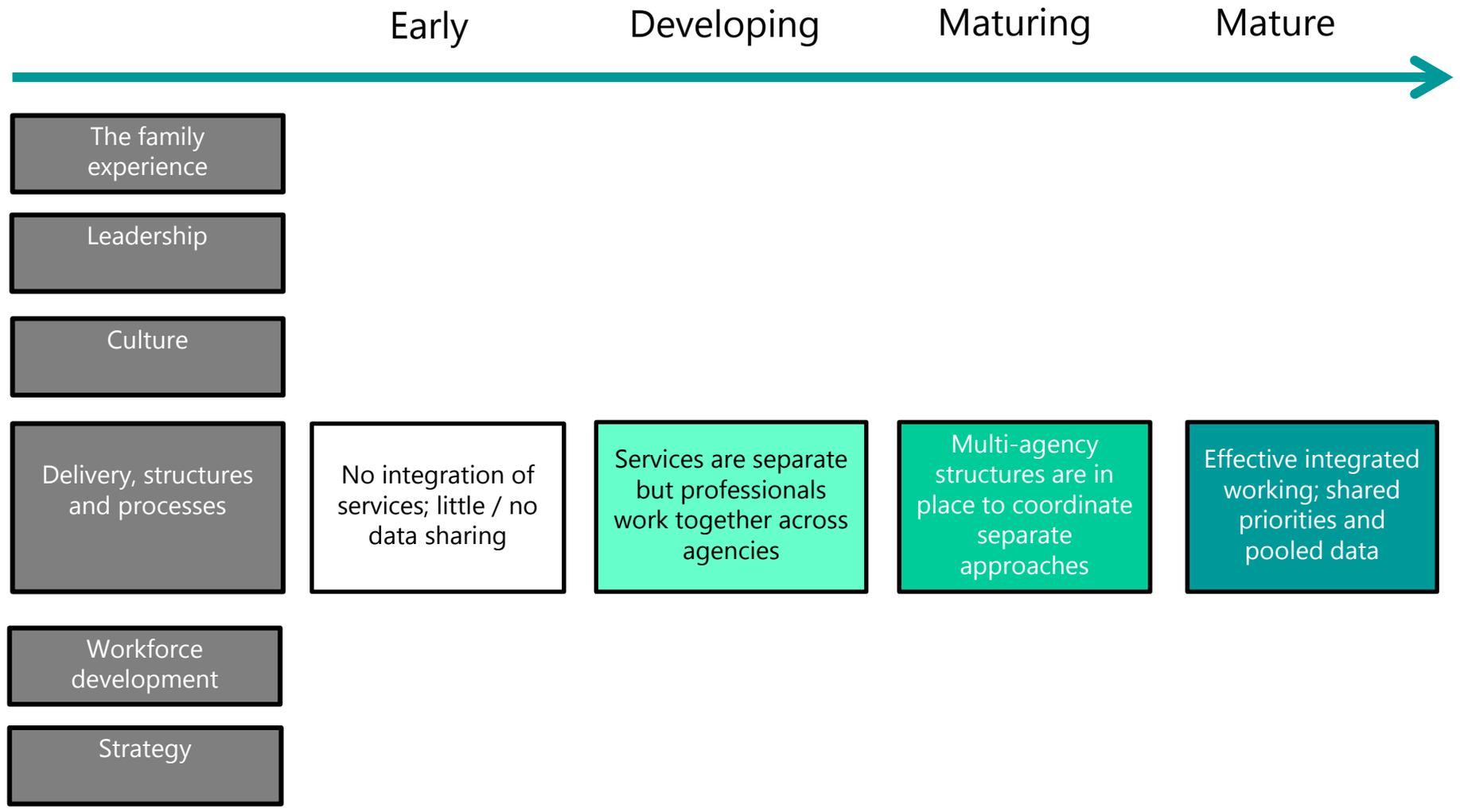
Cost benefit analysis

Based on the **GMCA unit cost database**:

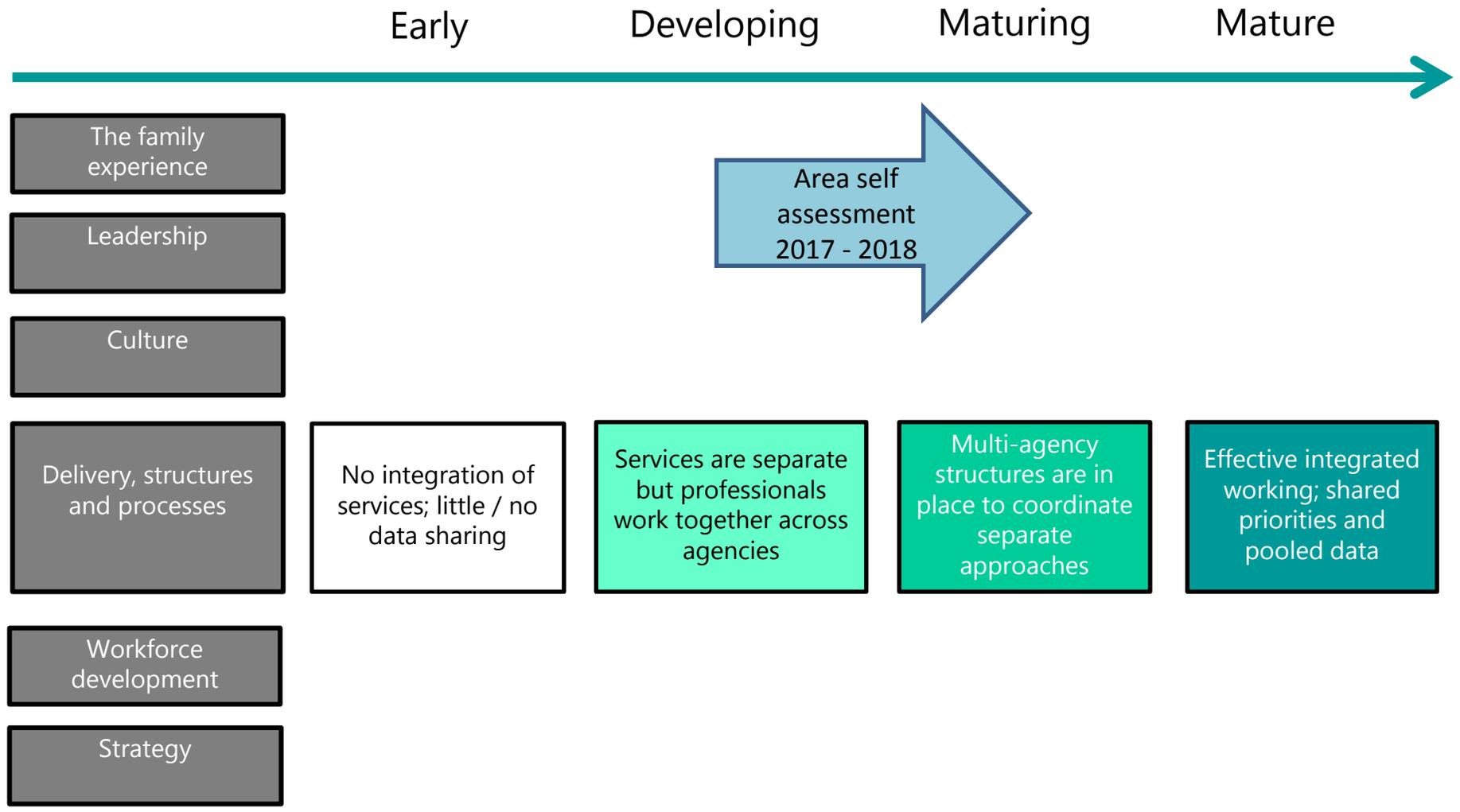
- For every £1 spent programme delivers **£2.28 of public value benefits**
- For every £1 spent programme delivers **£1.51 of gross Fiscal Benefits**



The Service Transformation Maturity Model



The Service Transformation Maturity Model





- Programme will end March 2020 – will areas continue to invest in prevention?



- Leadership – transformation is a choice



- Data: the basics and the future; systems and sharing; perceptions of predictive analytics



- Strategy – tying early help in to wider goals for places



- Workforce development – prestige of family support workers; common practice and quality assurance across professions



- Delivery structures: smoother step down, co-location, single case management between social care and EH



- Building community resilience



- Assessment of PbR and earned autonomy



- Name change?

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Questions and discussion

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